

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CFO18108WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/JP2004/006349	International filing date (day/month/year) 30/04/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 02/05/2003
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 07 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. _____

- as suggested by the applicant.
 as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
 as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

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Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.b of the first sheet)

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, the international search was carried out on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 - a sequence listing
 - table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - in written format
 - in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - contained in the international application as filed
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purpose of search
2. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
3. Additional comments:

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Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A structure, comprising a base material, coated with polymer which can be compatible with reduced load against environment and living organisms and various functionalities is provided. The base material is covered with polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA). The invention also relates to a method for production of the structure comprising immobilizing the enzyme which synthesizes PHA on the surface of the base material, biosynthesizing the PHA and coating the base material. The invention also provides toner containing such the structure and production thereof. Further, the invention relates to an image forming method comprising forming the image by providing such toner to the medium to be recorded.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G03G9/087 G03G9/087 C09D167/04 C12P C12N11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G03G C09D C12P C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 275 728 A (CANON KK) 15 January 2003 (2003-01-15) page 4, line 50 – line 55 page 6, line 42 – page 15, line 30; claims; examples -----	1-23
A	EP 1 254 930 A (CANON KK) 6 November 2002 (2002-11-06) page 3, line 3 – line 31 page 6, line 6 – page 15, line 56; claims; examples -----	1-23
A	EP 1 253 160 A (CANON KK) 30 October 2002 (2002-10-30) page 6, line 6 – page 13, line 22; claims; examples -----	1-23
	-/-	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 August 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/09/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 262 229 A (CANON KK) 4 December 2002 (2002-12-04) page 3, line 7 - page 13, line 20; claims; examples -----	1-23
A	DE 30 16 766 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD) 13 November 1980 (1980-11-13) the whole document -----	11
A	WO 01/94697 A (SATKOWSKI MICHAEL MATTHEW ; NODA ISAO (US); PROCTER & GAMBLE (US)) 13 December 2001 (2001-12-13) the whole document -----	1-23
A	US 6 096 810 A (D HAENE POL ET AL) 1 August 2000 (2000-08-01) the whole document -----	1-23
A	WO 02/16627 A (METABOLIX INC ; TEPHA INC (US)) 28 February 2002 (2002-02-28) page 6, line 28; claims -----	1-23
X	US 5 614 576 A (RUTHERFORD DENISE R ET AL) 25 March 1997 (1997-03-25) column 4, line 6 - line 18 column 5, line 6 - line 30 column 5, line 64 - line 66 column 6, line 7; claims; examples -----	1,11
A	EP 1 255 166 A (CANON KK) 6 November 2002 (2002-11-06) the whole document -----	1-23
A	EP 1 253 162 A (CANON KK) 30 October 2002 (2002-10-30) the whole document -----	1-23

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Information on patent family members

International Application No
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			✓ JP	2003034716 A	07-02-2003
			✓ US	2003100700 A1	29-05-2003